

REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance are requested for claims 7, 8, and 10 in view of the following remarks.

Status of the Application

Claims 7, 8, and 10 are pending in this application. Claims 1-6 were previously withdrawn. Claim 9 was previously canceled. Claims 7, 8, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable by U.S. Patent No. 5,874,905 to Nanba *et al.* (the “Nanba patent”) in view of Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 2002-090167 to Sato (the “Sato publication”).

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

According to the Examiner, the Nanba patent “fail[s] to specifically disclose a graphic at a position on the road map corresponding to traffic jam statistical information, wherein the graphic depends on the traffic jam statistical information and a reliability of the traffic jam statistical information.” The Examiner stated that the Sato publication discloses the subject matter missing from the Nanba patent and that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the present invention to combine these references.

In response, Applicants respectfully assert that the graphic in the Sato publication does not overlappingly display a graphic in the manner of claim 7. The figure in Sato cited by the Examiner shows an insert placed on top of a map, where the insert indicates the time and distance for alternate routes. In contrast, the display method of the present invention shows the traffic jam

information directly on the map that displays the position and direction of the vehicle.

In addition, the Examiner has failed to demonstrate that the Sato publication discloses a graphic depending on “traffic jam statistical information and a reliability of the traffic jam statistical information.” Even if the figure in the Sato publication cited by the Examiner reflects some type of statistical information, there is no indication that the displayed data depends on the reliability of the underlying information.

For at least these reasons, the Nanba patent and the Sato publication, either alone or in combination, do not disclose the subject matter of claim 7. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of this claim should be withdrawn. As claims 8 and 10 depend from claim 7, the rejection of these claims should be withdrawn as well.

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If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #029118.53153US).

Respectfully submitted,

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